# Nuggets of News

P.O. Box 26
Gold Hill, Ore. 97525
504 First Avenue

GOLD HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

June 1996

We at the Gold Hill Historical Society apologize to the Josephine County Historical Society for using a map of theirs in our last newsletter. We did not ask for permission to use it so I wanted them to know that we are sorry.

Editor: Kerrie Gomes

MEETING SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

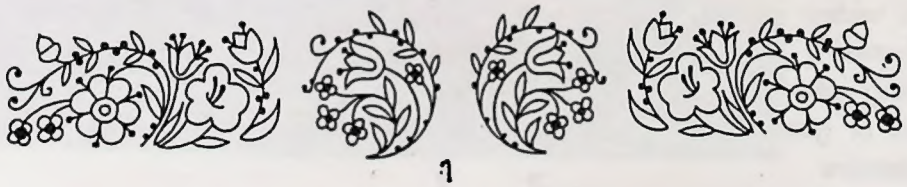
June 19th
July 17th
August 18th
September 18th

## GOLD DUST DAYS

Gold Dust Days was a really good success. Sorry I don't have any pitchers at this time, but there will be a much long article and pitchers in our next newsletter on the parade. As for our booth, we did really well. The face painting was a big hit again this year and sales were great. Of course we can always use more volunteers every year. A very big THANK YOU to all those who did volunteer this year and to all who stop by to see us. Come see us again next year.

## THANK YOU

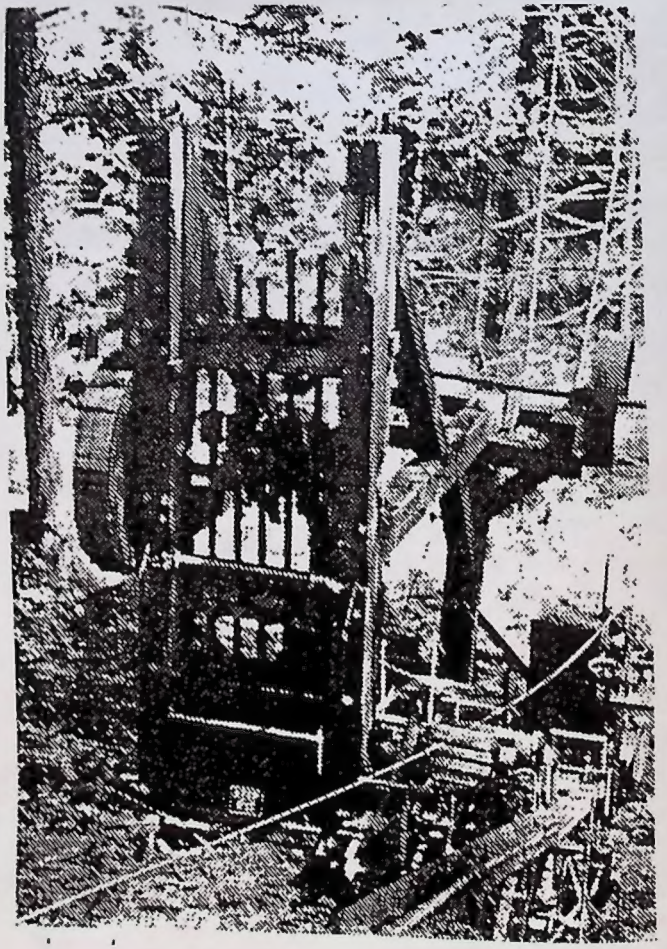
Thank you to all who have contributed to the newsletter. If you have anything you would like to see be put in the newsletter just mail or bring it in and as long as it is appropriate to publish I will be more than happy to put it in. Or if you have some artistic skills and think you might want to draw some historical looking pitchers to go with someone else's article, or any old pitchers, please send them to Kerrie Gomes/ C/O Gold Hill Historical Society P.O. box 26, Gold Hill, Or. 97525.



## GOLD HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACQUIRES STAMP MILL FOR OUTDOOR GOLD MINING DISPLAY

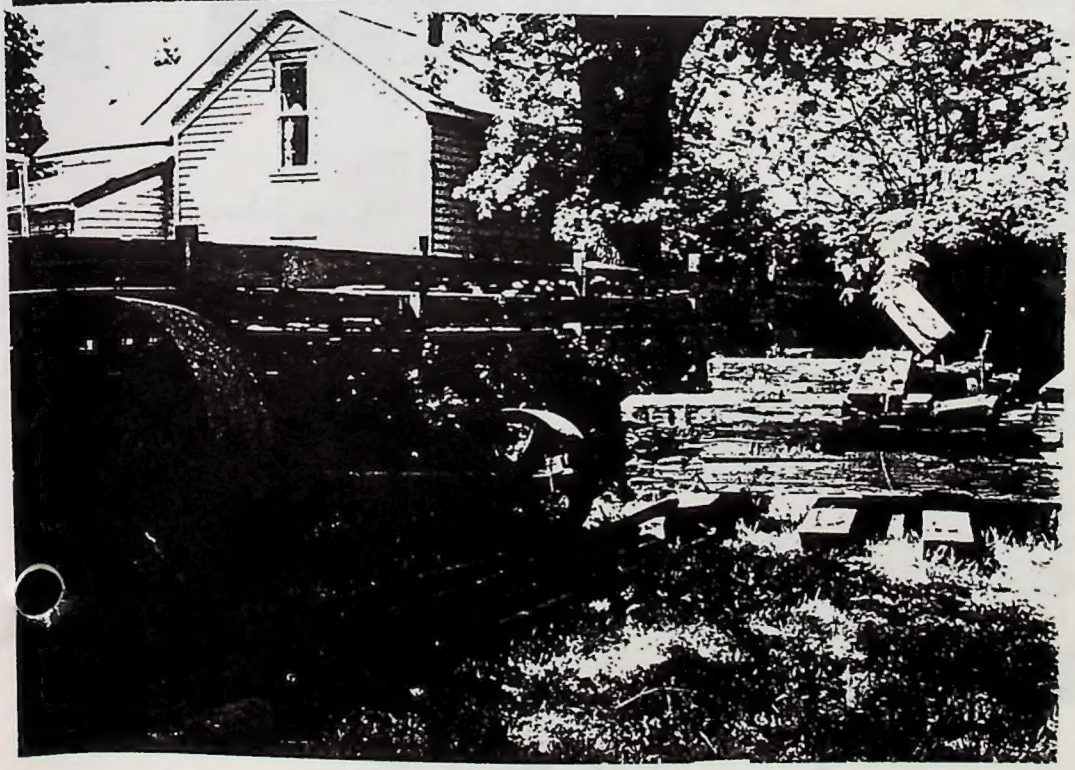
The stamp mill pictured here, purchased from Union Iron Works of San Francisco in 1892, was shipped by rail to Gold Hill, thence up Sardine Creek by mules, wagons & sled. The first ore was crushed & processed by spring of 1893. The mill was powered by steam with wood burning boiler & 2 1/2 HP steam engine. In the 1930 era a 4 cycle John Deere Industrial engine which is still in place. The mill was installed at the Lucky Bart mine, discovered by Joseph Cox in 1890 who then sold the claim to Bart Signoretti. (Therefore the name "Lucky Bart") Bart then sold to W.M. Lampert in 1891 who leased out the mine first to John Mead then to Josiah H Beeman in 1892. Beeman then bought and moved in the mill. He operated on the rich veins of ore till 1897 at which time he purchased the mine from Lampert and renewed the claim. The rich veins of ore lasted till 1907 then began to lead out. The mill sat at it's original location, Sect. 29, T 35s, r3w, 200 ft. from Sardine Creek and about 7 miles from Gold Hill all these years. Ore was transported from the seven tunnels by sled, then ore car to the i5 stamp mill. Ore from other nearby mines was also crushed by this mill. Milling continued intermittently as ore became available until the late 1930's. Records as of 1938 show the mill had crushed & processed 14,000 tons of select ore with values running from 8 to 12 ounces of gold per ton and a like amount of Silver. In 1920 gold was $12.00 per troy ounce. Records as of 1938 also show ownership by Hattie H. Beeman, Josiahs widow who leased the operation to James T. Breeding in 1936. Breeding later gave up the mine for lack of good ore after having done extensive tunneling. at an unknown date ownership evolved to a J.E. Kirk, then to John E. Cole who sold to A.L. Harrison in 1963. According to Done Gammelgaard, Harrisons grandson, the mill last operated in 1975 but was discontinued due to expensive repairs being needed. Harrison died in 1985 with Don Gammelgaard inheriting the claim. He did only token miming then let the claim lapse. In 1994 the claim was taken up by Jim Dodson & Gary Vincent from whom GHHS has acquired the mill. Dodson & Vincent will continue to operate the Luck Bart but with more modern machinery. It is interesting to note that gold produced by this mill is what enabled Josiah Beeman to build the fine home in 1902 that is now our Museum. Now the mill is "coming home", thru the generous help of some local truckers & volunteers. It will be set up for the public to view in our outdoor mining exhibits.

Ted Wharton



STAMP MILL

As it sits in the yard waiting for volunteers to get lumber and put it back together. If you can help please call Ted or Eric at the Historical Society. 855-1182



Edith May Newton was born Sept. 27, 1875 in Newton, Iowa to William H. and Eva M. Newton.
She came to Oregon with her parents and sisters, Lydia and Luella Bell in Nov. 1882
They took a Homestead on Sardine Creek. Edith (my mother), told me she attended the school at Rock Point, just south of Gold Hill, Or. She was 7 years old.
When she completed the eighth grade she went to Jacksonville, Or. and took her Teaching Exams to teach; as many girls did at that time. Then she taught at Rock Point and various other places, where ever they were sent.
The family moved to Central Point, Or. in 1892. This picture was taken in Central Point June, 1892.
Letters she kept show she went to Big Butte, Or. in July of 1892 from Bonanza. Sept. and Nov. 1892 to Derby, Or.; Jan. and Feb. 1893 the letters were from Haynesville, Or. to Medford, Or. The teachers were sent where there were enough children needing schooling and were of all ages.
The teacher would board with a family. Edith was sent to a new school where there were Big Boys 13 to 16 years. She worried how she could teach them anything. Edith was 4 ft. 11 inc. tall.
In a letter to her mother she ask her to send her a 'fine' tooth comb as she was sure some of her students had "inhabitants" in their hair and didn't want to get them and have to leave.

Edith's teaching ended in June, 1893 when she married Jesse D. Starns.

P.S.

I will correct my ending statement. Our mother's teaching did not end in 1893. I would say she had the longest teaching "Career". Raising a family of eight children was a lifetime of Teaching.

Written by: Ruth Starns Harmon

One of the teachers from the "School Teacher Factory" Shown in the 96 calendar. She was my Grandmother.
Ted Wharton.

BUNCOM!! WE WERE THERE!! On May 25, 1996, Rex & Lyn Parker, Ted & Armella Wharton, Janet & Jerry Sessions, Alyce Bottlesom and Marge Martin went to help celebrate the Centennial of the Post Office at Buncom. We mailed a post card to our Society, it was post marked 1996. It was a really fun day. Buncom gave us a tomato plant for our garden at the museum. There should be a lot of tomatoes by August for our pot luck. Thank you Buncom, we all had a great time.

A CRY FOR HELP!

Dear Sirs,

I sent you a letter about two weeks ago and never received any information on Gold Hill. I'm a little upset because my Social Studies project depends on you . So please send me some more info. on your city. These are some of the things I would like you to cover:

Population
Any historical events
Your size in square miles
Any famous people
Geography
Climate
Location on a map
elevation
Historical land marks
Major employment of the people
When and how it became a town

Thank you for your time and effort!

Sincerely,
Kari Patching.

P.S. This means a lot to me. So please try to get me some info.
P.S.S. Please write back.

June 4, 1996

Dear Miss Patching,

I sincerely regret the delay in getting information to you for your social studies project but your request just came to my attention June 3. Since there is no Chamber of Commerce and the present state of disruption at Gold Hill City Hall (everyone has either quit or been fired) your letter of May 6 apparently lay un-opened.

Enclosed find information that I hope will enable you to complete your project. I was born in this town in 1919 but later moved to Medford. In 1986 our museum and Historical Society was formed. We have since grown and are the only information source available to the public.

If ever in southern Oregon, please visit our Museum. It is free of charge and well worth your time.

Sincerely,
Ted Wharton
Past president
& board member

*Gold Hill Historical Society*
*P.O. Box 26*
*504 First Avenue*
*Gold Hill, Oregon 97525*
*Phone 855-1182*

STASTICS

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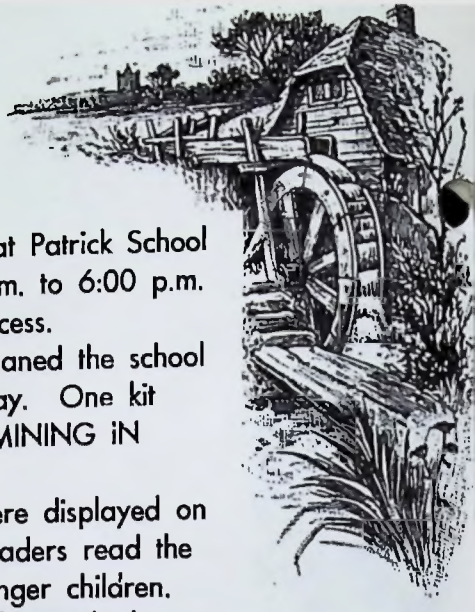
|---|---|
| Population | 1000 |
| Events | 1884-1984 Founders day celebration<br>Annually we have a parade called Gold Dust Days<br>1885-1995 100 year "Centennial"<br>This year we are celebrating the 150 year Susquecentennial travel ofthe Applegate Trail wagon train. |
| Size | Probably 3 sq miles (city records not too accessable) |
| Famous people | Thomas Chavner Founder<br>Chavner Thompson Miner & farmer<br>Ben Hur Lampman Publisher<br>Ben Miller Early Pioneer & nurseryman<br>C.C Mc Clendon Indian fighter<br>Ellen Griffith Patrick, A.J. Hanby } Schools named after them |
| Geography | On Rogue River in mountainous country |
| Climate | Mild, seldom below 0° or above 100° |
| Location | Between Medford & Grants Pass on old US 99 |
| Elevation | 1000 |
| Landmarks | Monument to Col.T. Vault who established first settlement & built a fort. Was killed by indians. Fort Lane & Table Rock monument where indian treaty was signed. |
| Employment | Jeddeloh Bros. Sweed Mills. Otherwise some logging, farming & gold mining. Basically has reverted to a bedroom community for Medford. |
| History | Established in 1884, Incorporated in 1895. |
| Past history | Major Gold discovery in 1857. |
| Tourist attractions | Gold mining, rafting,museum, tourist trap known as (House of mystery or "Vortex") |
| Politics | Very unstable & erratic city covernment. Have had influx of out of state people who think they know more than the old timers |
| General | Basically a clean little town with growing pains. |



The Art Gallery held at Patrick School May 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. was a tremendous success.
Jacksonville museum loaned the school 4 kits (trunks) to display. One kit contained pictures of MINING iN GOLD HILL.
The bulletin boards were displayed on easels and the fifth graders read the information to the younger children. Each grade had a different display. Ceramic dishes, wooden tulips, water colors, murals. The staff also displayed their talents. Beaded jewelry, oil paintings, a leaf collection, post cards, stationery and pillows made from recycled shirts. Mrs. Estremado is already planning for next years' exhibit.

Centennial Medallions celebrating the sesquicentennial Applegate Trail wagon train that came through Southern Oregon 150 years ago are available at the museum. A silver medallion, facsimile of same shown above sells for $15.00 and a bronze replica for $10.00 plus $5.00 postage and handling if mailed. The wagon train is scheduled to come through Gold Hill Thursday October 3rd and will stop for lunch at Patrick School. Make your plans now to help celebrate their arrival. A band and other groups will escort the train through town. We also still have a few Gold Hill centennial Medallions left if you didn't get one.

On Sat. May 25 seventy nine veterans graves were decorated with American flags at Rock Point-I.O.O.F. cemetery. Carl Wormington, Malcolm Ray and Mary Bradish completed the task in two hours. The flags will be removed after May 30th.

# Applegate Trail

DON'T FORGET TO JOIN US FOR
OUR ANNUAL PICNIC.
COME AND JOIN ALL THE FUN.

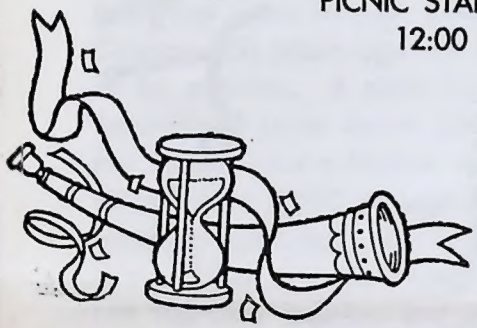
Sunday August 18th
Here at the Museum

WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO

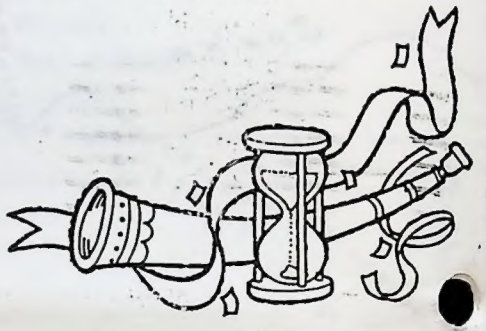
BAR-B-Q AND POTLUCK

BRING YOUR APPETITE

PICNIC STARTS AROUND
12:00 p.m.



This will be our monthly meeting also, so you can ketch-up on everything that is going on.



*Gold Hill Historical Society*
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Eagle Point Historical Society
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